

Washington, DC – As the nation's unemployment rate hits its highest level in 16 years, and 598,000 Americans lost their jobs just last month, Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) today called on the U.S. Senate to act swiftly to pass the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*, supported by President Obama and passed by the U.S. House.

"America's economic security crisis is growing worse every day and it is hitting our families hard. The U.S. Senate needs to act immediately to deliver much-needed relief to families and our communities. Senators need to put the needs of our country first and work together to vote for passage of the recovery package today so Congress can send a final bill to the President for his signature next week," Congresswoman McCollum said.

Over the last 13 months, a record 3.6 million American jobs have been lost. The House passed the \$819 billion *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* last week to put people back to work and prevent the economy from continuing its downward spiral.

Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-4) serves on the House Appropriations & Budget Committees.

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